THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

" Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice.."—OTHELLO.

No. 3021. *Monday, Aug.* 22, 1831. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing !"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer*

Adelphi, Strand.

On Saturday evening, Mr. Peake's new Drama, *The Evil Eye*, was performed, for the third time, to a numerous and delighted audience; it was followed by *The Middle Temple*, and *The Haunted Hulk*.

Hay-market Theatre.

On arriving at this Theatre on Saturday evening, just as the first piece *Youth, Love, and Folly*, had commenced, we were surprised to find, that which is most abhorrent to the feelings of managers,—a vacuum! true it is, the weather was unfavorable, but that we should have thought, might have been counterbalanced, by the attraction of a new Drama; and, in fact, ere its commencement, there was a tolerable sprinkling, not only in the boxes, but also in the pit and galleries, so that the dreary appearance of the house, on the rising of the curtain, must be attributed to the fashion of going late to the Theatre, which the groundlings and the gods imitate, from the more aristocratical portion of the audience. *My Wife or My Place?* which was acted for the first time, was designated in the bills as a petite *Comedy*, now, though *Farce* would have been the more appropriate appellation, as it was a very amusing *bagatelle*, we will not quarrel with the misnomer, as "a rose by any other name, would smell as sweet." The principal character in this two act Comedy, or Farce, we dont care which, is a Mr. Dupeley, (W. Farren,) a most inveterate place hunter, who arrives in London, accompanied by his young wife Adeline, (Miss Taylor,) to push his fortune. The first scene introduces us to the *bureau* of Sir Harry Hairbrain, (Vining,) an idle thoughtless man of fashion, who solely because he is nephew to the prime minister, is a *commissioner*, (but of what we are not told,) the situation of secretary to the commissioner being vacant, Sir Harry, to propitiate Durable, (Webster,) an employé in his office, promises the place to a relative of his, just after arrives Mr. Dupeley, to solicit the secretaryship for himself, and meets with the most cutting reception, and refusal, but he has scarcely been dismissed, when his wife enters with his forgotten memorial, and on Sir Harry discovering who she is, Mr. Dupeley is recalled, received with marked attention, and the secretaryship given without hesitation to him. Sir Harry also presents to Mr. and Mrs. Dupeley, cards for a ball, to be given in the evening, by his sister Lady Modeley, (Mrs. Faucit.)

At this ball SirHarry pays the most assiduous court to Mrs.Dupeley, and the jealousy of her husband is excited by the inuendoes of Durable, who hopes by that means to prevail on Dupeley to resign the promised place. Alfred, (Brindal,) and Adeline had been affianced, and a mutual affection still subsists between them, checked on the lady's side by a sense of duty: but when Adeline perceives her husband's jealousy,

she concludes Alfred to be the object, and to prove her innocence, gives him an unopened letter, addressed to her by Alfred, requesting him to return it to the writer. Dupeley believing Sir Harry to be the author, gives him the letter, and resigns his place; Sir Harry at once sees the mistake, but keeps the secret, and on the news being brought that Alfred is appointed the *commissioner*, Dupely is overjoyed with the idea of keeping both his wife and his place; this, however, Adeline forbids, and declares her resolution of returning to the country;—Dupely then discovers who is the real letter writer, and consoles himself with having kept his wife tho' he has lost his place. The acting of Farren may be styled perfect; there was no exaggeration, but the best effect was produced without once overstepping the modesty of nature; if his address to the audience at the end of the piece, where he solicits to be placed at the *head* of the theatrical department had been omitted it would have been as well, it savoured a little too much of vanity, he was ably supported by Brindal, Vining, Webster, and Miss Taylor: the latter introduced a song, accompanied by herself on the piano-forte which was encored. We have heard that Mr. Shannon is the author, if so we congratulate him on its success, as it was received throughout with universal laughter and applause. The Opera of *Rob Roy* concluded the entertainments.

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

Dear Mr. Editor, I address you from the elegant and commodious *Dining Rooms*, Leicester Place, corner of Leicester Square, where I have just dropt in to take my Dinner—here I find a profusion of newspapers, exquisite coffee, pretty and obliging waitresses, and what is a great consideration, very moderate charges—do pop in and take a snack—just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

Monday I visit the *Diorama*, in the Regent's Park, to see the two new and enchanting Views—Mount St. Gothard, painted by M. Daguerre, and Village of Unterseen, in Switzerland, Painted by M. Daguerre—these *chef d'œuvres*, will shortly close to make room for two other beautiful Views just finished.

Afterwards, I inspect the wonder of wonders, *The Gigantic Whale*, the length of which is 95 feet, at the handsome Pavilion, Charing-Cross,—hundreds of the curious, visit this Queen of the Seas, which excites the admiration, and astonishment of the public.

Tuesday call at the Queen's Bazaar 78, Oxford Street—splendidly fitted-up and magnificently arranged—visit the *British Diorama*, the 4 Views, by Stanfield, highly interesting—Lounge in the *Physiorama*, 14 Views from all parts of the world truly unique and beautiful—Step into the *Octorama*, 8 new Views of the French Expedition to Algiers; to which is added a new Grand Exhibition of the French Revolution, painted on many thousand feet of canvass—grand composition, inimitable execution, and vast labour—crowded daily with fashionables.

On Wednesday, I step'd into Weeks's Royal Mechanical Exhibition, 3, Tichborne Street, opposite the Haymarket, and as there were some beautiful ladies there, fancied myself in the Harem of an Eastern Sultan; such a display of magnificent jewelled and ornamented mechanism—flowers opening—animals and figurs moving—birds singing, and every variety of motion so true to nature that no description can do it justice.

I daily, between 1 and 4, qualify Mrs. Pry's discordant notes with some harmoney divine, and may be found at *The Apollonicon*, 101, St. Martin's Lane—Horn's 'Deep, deep sea,' and Barnett's 'God preserve the King,' enchanting.

On Friday, I pop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art.

I nightly lounge in the lobbies—fond of adventure—observed a beautiful Sylph admiring herself in my boots—'Why, Mr. Pry,' says she, 'does a great actress resemble Warren's Jet Blacking?' 'Because she cuts a *shine*.'—I never give it up.—but I intrude, beg pardon, your's.

PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Adelphi, Strand.

English Opera Company.

This Evening, (4th time,) a new Romantic Musical Drama, called

The Evil Eye!

The Music composed by Mr. G. H. Rodwell—New Scenery by Tomkins & Pitt.
Machinery by Mr Stribley—Properties & Decorations by Mr Foster.
Dresses by Mr Head and Miss Rayner.

Mavroyeni, (the Waywode,) Mr PERKINS, Basilius, Mr MINTON,
Zané Kiebabs, Mr JOHN REEVE,
Andrea, } Sons of the Chieftain of the House } Mr T. MILLAR,
Marco, } of Albanitza, } Miss POOLE,
Barozzi, Mr O. SMITH,
Demetrius, Mr J. BLAND, Kara Mustapha, Mr SALTER,
Giorgio, (a Mariner,) Mr Aldridge, Attendant on Mavroyeni, Mr Addison.
Helena, (Wife of Demetrius,) Miss KELLY,
Phrosina.....(Daughter of Basilius,).....Miss H. CAWSE.
Natives of Napoli di Romania, Hydrioles, Turkish Soldiers, &c.
Messrs Addison, Barclay, Bowman, Cooper, Greep, Heath, Henshaw, &c&c.

After which,

GIULIO REGONDI,

The surprising performer on the Guitar, (only Eight Years of age,) will make his first appearance at this Theatre.

To which will be added, a New Serio-Comic Opera, called

THE SORCERESS

The Stadtholder of Gyllestein, Mr J. RUSSELL,
Count Arwed.....(his Nephew).....Mr T. MILLAR,
Black Naddock.....Mr H. PHILLIPS,
Oscar.....Mr ALDRIDGE, Megnet.....Mr J. BLAND,
Granx Blunderbudski, Mr J. REEVE,
The Countess Christine.....Miss BETTS,
Liska, (her Attendant, personating *'The Sorceress,'* Miss H. CAWSE,
Stella, Miss FERGUSON, Mina, Miss NOVELLO.

To conclude with, the Operetta of

OLD AND YOUNG.

Old Wilton, Mr F. MATTHEWS,
Charles Mowbray.....Mr BAKER, Peter.....Mr SALTER,
Matilda Mowbray, (a Child).....Miss POOLE,
Master Hector Mowbray.....Miss POOLE,
Master Gobbleton Mowbray.....Miss POOLE,
Master Foppington Mowbray .....Miss POOLE,
In which she will introduce,
"*The Merry Drummer,*" (A. Lee.) and "*Meet me by Moonlight,*"
Peggy, Miss PINCOTT.

Theatre Royal, Hay-Market.

This Evening, the Play of The

Foundling of the Forest

Count De Valmont, Mr COOPER,
Florian, Mr VINING, Bertrand, Mr H. WALLACK,
Baron Longueville, Mr W. JOHNSON,
L'Eclair, Mr WEBSTER, Gaspard, Mr J. COOPER,
Sanguin, Mr Coveney, Lenoir, Mr Bishop.
Rosabelle, Mrs HUMBY, Geraldine, Miss TAYLOR,
Monica, Mrs GLOVER,
Eugenia, (an Unknown Female,) Mrs FAUCIT,

In Act II.

A PAS DEUX, by M. EDGAR, and Mademoiselle CLARI.

After which, (2nd time) a Petite Comedy, in two acts, called

My Wife or My Place!

Sir Harry Hairbrain, Mr VINING,
Dupeley.....Mr W. FARREN,
Alfred, Mr BRINDAL,
Durable.....Mr WEBSTER.
Adeline, Miss TAYLOR,
Lady Modely.....Mrs FAUCIT.

To conclude with the Dramatic Entertainment of

THE CRITICK;

Or, a Tragedy Rehears'd.

Dangle, Mr BRINDAD, Sneer, (2nd time,) Mr H. WALLACK,
Puff, Mr COOPER,
Sir Fretful Plagiary, Mr W. FARREN, Mrs Dangle, Mrs T. HILL,

TRAGEDIANS.

Lord Burleigh, Mr BISHOP, Earl of Leicester, Mr COVENEY,
Governor of Tilbury Fort, Mr GATTIE,
Sir Walter Raleigh, Mr MULLENEY, Beefeater, Mr WEBSTER,
Sir Christopher Hatton, Mr J. COOPER,
Master of the Horse, Mr BARTLETT, Under Prompter, Mr COATES,
Don Ferolo Whiskerandos, Mr HARLEY,
First Sentinel, Mr FIELD. Second Sentinel, Mr MOORE.
Tilburina, Mrs HUMBY,
First Niece, Miss J. SCOTT, Second Niece, Miss BARNETT,
Confidante, Mrs TAYLEURE.

Printed & Published, every Morning, by E. Thomas, Denmark Court, Exeter Street, Strand—All Letters to be post paid.